

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 2 and 3 and to add the word “being” after the phrase “in a state of not.” Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment to place the present application in condition for allowance is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1 and 4-11 will be pending.

In paragraph No. 5 of the Action, Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bonkhoff et al (US 6,063,281). Claim 4 has been rejected under § 103(a) in view of the same references and further in view of Nekrasov et al (Chemistry and Technology of Fuels and Oils, 1980, 16(2), 99-103). Claims 5-9 have been rejected under § 103(a) in view of the same references and further in view of the USEPA Contract Laboratory Program Statement of Work for Organics Analysis (May 1999, Section 10.1.3.1.3) (CLP SOW).

In paragraph No. 13 of the Action, Claims 3, 10 and 11 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As noted, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103(a) rejections and the claim objection are respectfully requested.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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Hui Chen Wauters
Hui C. Wauters
Registration No. 57,426